

Mission Statement of the Regional Church		On the Way with Doug and Cathy	
Our mission is			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To nurture members and congregations To establish and receive new congregations 			
While working together with the whole Church to do Christ's ministry in the world.			
Doug and Cathy Myers Wirt Regional Ministers			
Audre Bratcher, Administrative Assistant			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mar. 24 Portland First, Maundy Thursday Service Doug Mar. 23 Portland, Commission on Ministry Doug Mar. 20 Albany, Ordination Committee Meeting Doug Mar. 20 Corvallis, Worship Doug Mar. 20 Ione, Worship and Committee Meeting Cathy Mar. 19 Lynchwood, Portland Disciples Men Doug Mar. 19 LaGrande, Women's Pray and Play Cathy Mar. 16 Eugene, Ministers Lunch Cathy Mar. 13 Keizer, Preaching Cathy Mar. 13 Homedale, Preaching Doug Mar. 12 Boise, Clergy Boundary Training, Leading Doug Mar. 11 Ecumenical Ministries Committee Meeting Doug Mar. 10 New Church Team Doug Mar. 10 Columbia Gorge District Clergy Cathy Mar. 6 Keizer Christian, Doug Preaching Doug/Cathy Mar. 5 Albany, Visioning Event Cathy Mar. 5 Portland, Clergy Boundary Training Leading Doug Mar. 4 Keizer Christian Council Meeting Cathy Mar. 1 Portland, Oregon Disciples Foundation Bd. Doug Feb. 28 Eugene, Glenwood, Meeting Doug Feb. 27-28 Salem, Middle School Youth Retreat Cathy/Doug 	

News from our Congregations

Pacific Islands Family Church: Welcomed Chuukese Disciples to Portland from many regions for Easter Rally.

Portland FCC/Midway: Thank you for hosting Chuukese Easter Rally.

Homedale: In home devotional materials for Maundy Thursday

Red Rock: Welcomed Interim Pastor Rene' Jensen on March 6 with a potluck.

Christ Church: sponsored a gathering on Christian response to racism with Jim Wallis.

Lebanon: Church visioning session on April 3.

Corvallis: Thank you to Pastor Matt Gordon for keynoting the middle school retreat.

La Grande: Thank you for hosting women's Pray & Play.

Salem: Thank you for hosting the Middle School Rally.

Pendleton: Finalizing their "future story" with consultant Dick Hamm.

Lynchwood: Had a Blue Grass Sunday Worship Service.

Albany: Held all church vision day in late February.

Salem, Silverton, Albany, Eugene, Northwood: Team built houses in Mexico.

Save these dates!

April 2	Medford
<i>Women's Pray and Play Day</i>	
April 9	Hood River
<i>Women's Pray and Play Day</i>	
April 16	Mountain Home
<i>Women's Pray and Play Day</i>	
May 20-21	Springfield
<i>Regional Assembly</i>	
June 4	Portland
<i>Regional Board Meeting</i>	
June 9-20	Ecuador
<i>Global Mission Trip</i>	
August 19-21	Cascade
<i>Women's Retreat</i>	
September 16, 17, 18, 24, 25	
<i>Mission First Events</i>	
October 14-15	
Beaverton	
<i>Women's Retreat</i>	





The Christian Church • La Iglesia Cristiana

www.oidisciples.org 0245 SW Bancroft Suite F, Portland 97239

Regional Assembly
May 20-21
Northwood Christian
Springfield



Registration materials for Regional Assembly are now in congregations and on our website, www.oidisciples.org. You can find the schedule and suggested hotels on line as well.

Worship planning is well underway, with excellent speakers/preachers, a joint choir, and uplifting congregational singing. The joint choir will rehearse at Northwood the Tuesday before the assembly, and the two anthems will be available ahead of time for practice in other locations or individually. A rehearsal will also be held at the assembly during the Saturday morning workshop period, and the choir will sing for the Saturday afternoon worship.

Speakers include...

Friday afternoon: Dick Hamm, Introducing Future Story

Friday evening: Vy Nguyen, Preaching opening worship

Saturday breakfast: Vy Nguyen, Week of Compassion stories

Saturday morning: Blanca Puma, speaking in morning session

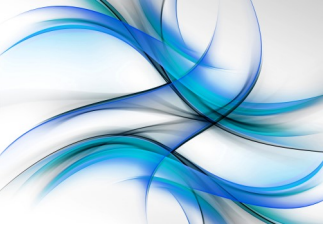
Saturday afternoon: Cathy and Doug Wirt, launching future story

Dick Hamm has been our regional consultant, commissioned by our board, to help create a three year vision for the regional church. Vy Nguyen is the Executive Director of Week of Compassion ministry. Blanca Puma is the Executive Director of FEDCIE, Ecuador.

Learn more on the website!!

April
2016

Volume 3 Issue 4



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June Camp Dates

June 6-10 Juniors at Cascade Camp, ID

June 24-26 Kids Camp Red Rock Christian Boise

See Website for July/August dates



In April, most people think about taxes. We also seek gifts for the Annual Fund of the Christian Church in Oregon-SW Idaho. The two share more in common than the calendar. Your Disciples regional and general church ministries do things that have important tax implications for members, churches and ministers. However, ministries of

administration can seem important only when left undone.

For example, each year, regional and general church ministries work with congregations to create an annual Yearbook of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). This lists recognized and new church ministries, congregational facts and figures, and the ordained and commissioned ministers of our church. Each regional office sends an annual share of dollars to publish the Yearbook. The Yearbook verifies for congregations that they are covered by the Disciples of Christ group tax exemption. For ministers, the Yearbook listing confirms that they are eligible to file their own taxes with a minister's housing allowance. Ministers also verify with the regional church their contact information and continuing participation in the church as ministers.

Your regional church also pays for an annual professional audit of regional church expenses. This can prove to the IRS and state governments that funds are used according to laws governing non profit organizations. This allows members, in giving generously of their income, to claim a tax deduction for giving to the church. Gifts to the Annual Fund of the regional church support all the visible ministries that you read about in the newsletter. Your gifts also make possible many other quieter activities, that sustain all of our ministries, year in and year out. So we thank you!

"Each part working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love." Eph.4:16

Doug

Regional Church Vision Team Update

The Vision team is preparing a video for the launching of our "future story" at the Regional Assembly in May. If you would like to participate, please send videos of rivers running through your town or still shots with faces prominently centered to Stacy Shelton at stacy.shelton@gmail.com.

The team has presented to the regional board for their discussion two drafts of our "future story" which is still being revised at this writing. The "future story" is the focus of our regional assembly to be held at Northwood Christian as we reach forward in our ministry together.

The three year story highlights what the team heard as they listened to Oregon and SW Idaho Disciples over a 2 year period, from 2014-today. The first year's goals are to deepen the network of shared ministry in our districts; to vastly increase our expertise in the use of technology for resource distribution and connection between congregations and our global church; and to engage in the whole church Mission First project; while developing a deep pool of leaders trained in anti-racism action through a pilot project of Reconciliation Ministries.



Camp Publicity Materials on Line

Materials for Summer Camps are posted on the regional website and have been sent to congregations.



Fedice Ecuador Trip 2016

More than a dozen Oregon and Idaho Disciples will visit Ecuador in June 2016. The group comes from at least seven different congregations in the region. More than half will be going on their first visit to work with our mission partner FEDICE in Ecuador.

We will commission the Ecuador travelers at the Regional Assembly at Northwood Christian Church in Springfield on the morning of May 21. Please pray for the preparations for the trip, for our travelers and for the FEDICE staff and churches. FEDICE Executive Director Blanca Puma and her husband Luis Jara will be at the Regional Assembly in Springfield May 20-21 and with the Snake River District on May 22.

Come get to know them or renew your acquaintance to show your support for their ministry. The Regional Assembly will receive a special offering on Saturday morning to support the new regional project in Romerillos, Ecuador.

Men's Ministries in Oregon-SW Idaho

Many men's groups meet often within the congregations of the Christian Church in Oregon-SW Idaho. Recently, more of the local men's groups have started meeting with the men in nearby churches. In the Columbia Gorge District, men from several churches have met together monthly for over a year. Some have traveled between Portland and Salem, or between Salem and Lebanon. Each meeting is different, except that each one ends with an interest in getting together again. Disciples Men from across North America will gather this summer in Fort Worth, Texas on the campus of Texas Christian University. Called "Sessions '16," this event will gather Disciples men with the theme "You are Called by Name." See www.discipleshomemissions.org.



Women's Pray and Play Day 2016 Dates

Pray and Play is now in full swing for this year. The cost has been reduced to \$10, which is down \$5.00 from last year. Registration covers program materials, a magazine to take home, and a gift. Pray and Play events are 3 hour mini-retreats and have time for playing together and praying together as the name suggests. Registration materials also on website.

Three events have happened already in Salem, Eugene and La Grande, with 104 women participating so far. You can see pictures on our website and on our Facebook Page. Thanks go to FCC Salem, FCC Eugene and FCC La Grande for excellent hospitality.

An offering is received at the event split equally between Disciples Mission Fund and our newest project with FEDICE in Romerillos, Ecuador. So far the offering has totaled \$932. The women have also been contributing blessings box offering (over \$275 so far) and spinning a "wheel of blessing" to remember our many blessings — again, check out the pictures! They also have contributed books to Lynchwood School and purchased notebooks with covers made by our sisters in Mozambique. The most fun is simply playing and praying together with women from multiple congregations. Come join the fun!

Dates and places yet to be...

Medford, April 2 Hood River, April 9 Mountain Home, April 16